

Message Text

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64

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-02 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /040 W
----- 078679

R 041541Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5148

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR UR

SUBJECT: PAN AMERICAN CHARTER FLIGHT TURNED BACK AT BORDER

1. MOSCOW PAN AM RE DRAHORAD INFORMED EMBOFF DEC 4 THAT PAN AM CHARTER FLIGHT WAS TURNED BACK BY SOVIET AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS NOV 29 AS IT ATTEMPTED ENTER SOVIET AIRSPACE IN WRONG AIR CORRIDOR. FLIGHT, WHICH WAS CARRYING STATE/USIA RECREATION ASSOCIATION MEMBERS TO USSR ON TOUR, WAS OBLIGED TO RETURN TO COPENHAGEN FOR REFUELING BEFORE REENTERING USSR ON CORRECT AIR LANE. FLIGHT WAS ULTIMATELY THREE AND ONE-HALF HOURS LATE IN ARRIVING MOSCOW.

2. DRAHORAD STATED THAT FLIGHT WAS CLEARED FOR ENTRY ON WENTSPILS-MOSCOW CORRIDOR, BUT THROUGH ERRONEOUS PROGRAMMING BY PAN AM FLIGHT CONTROL CENTER IN LONDON CAPTAIN OF AIRCRAFT WAS INSTRUCTED TO ENTER USSR AIRSPACE AT ALITUS (ON WARSAW-MOSCOW ROUTE). DRAHORAD STATED HE HAD NOT BROUGHT INCIDENT TO EMBASSY'S ATTENTION EARLIER SINCE PAN AM WAS CLEARLY AT FAULT.

3. COMMENT: IRRESPECTIVE OF QUESTION AS TO WHO WAS AT FAULT, INCIDENT POINTS UP ONCE AGAIN CONTINUING SOVIET INTRANSIGENCE TO SLIGHTEST DEVIATIONS FROM NORMS THEY HAVE SET FOR ACTIVITIES BY FOREIGNERS IN USSR. REGARDING
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ADHERENCE TO SOVIET AIR TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, DEPT AND/OR

DOT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER INSERTING STATEMENT IN USSR SECTION
OF "INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT INFORMATION MANUAL" TO EFFECT THAT
APPROVED FLIGHT PLANS MUST BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: SUPPLEMENTAL AIRLINES, FLIGHT CLEARANCES
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Decaption Note:
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